(h) *Designated nationality examiner* means a person designated under § 50.1(g) of this subchapter.

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 31 FR 14522, Nov. 11, 1966; 61 FR 43312, Aug. 22, 1996]

Subpart A—General

§ 51.2 Passport issued to nationals only.

(a) A United States passport shall be issued only to a national of the United States (22 U.S.C. 212).

(b) Unless authorized by the Department no person shall bear more than one valid or potentially valid U.S. passport at any one time.

[SD–165, 46 FR 2343, Jan. 9, 1981]

§ 51.3 Types of passports.

(a) *Regular passport.* A regular passport is issued to a national of the United States proceeding abroad for personal or business reasons.

(b) *Official passport.* An official passport is issued to an official or employee of the U.S. Government proceeding abroad in the discharge of official duties. Where appropriate, dependents of such persons may be issued official passports.

(c) *Diplomatic passport.* A diplomatic passport is issued to a Foreign Service Officer, a person in the diplomatic service or to a person having diplomatic status either because of the nature of his or her foreign mission or by reason of the office he or she holds. Where appropriate, dependents of such persons may be issued diplomatic passports.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

§ 51.4 Validity of passports.

(a) *Signature of bearer.* A passport is valid only when signed by the bearer in the space designated for his signature.

(b) *Period of validity of a regular passport.* A regular passport issued on or after January 1, 1983 to an applicant 18 years of age or older is valid for 10 years from date of issue unless limited by the Secretary to a shorter period. A regular passport issued on or after January 1, 1983 to an applicant under the age of 18 years is valid for 5 years from date of issue unless limited by the Secretary to a shorter period. An outstanding passport issued before January 1, 1983 remains valid for 5 years from date of issue unless limited by the Secretary to a shorter period.

(c) *Period of validity of an official passport.* An official passport is normally valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue as long as the bearer maintains the official status for which it is issued. It must be returned to the Department upon the termination of the bearer's official status.

(d) *Period of validity of a diplomatic passport.* A diplomatic passport issued on or after January 1, 1977 is valid for a period of five (5) years or so long as the bearer maintains his/her diplomatic status, whichever is shorter. A diplomatic passport which has not expired must be returned to the Department upon the termination of the bearer's diplomatic status or at such other time as the Secretary shall determine. Any outstanding diplomatic passport issued before January 1, 1977 will expire effective December 31, 1977.

(e) *Period of a regular passport issued for no fee.* A regular passport for which payment of the fee has been excused is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue unless limited by the Secretary to a shorter period.

(f) *Limitation and extension of validity.* The validity period of any passport may be limited by the Secretary to less than the normal validity period. Applications for extension of passports limited to less than the normal full validity period must be made in writing and must be submitted, with the passport, to a passport issuing Office. In no event may a passport be extended beyond the normal period of validity prescribed for such passport by paragraphs (b) through (e) of this section.

(g) *Cancellation of passport endorsed as valid only for travel to Israel.* The validity of any passport which has been issued and endorsed as valid only for travel to Israel is cancelled effective April 25, 1992. Where it is determined that its continued use is warranted, the validity of such passport may be renewed or extended for additional periods of two years upon cancellation of the Israel-only endorsement. In no